



August 2011

[Nebraska Department of Education](#)

Office of Multicultural/Native
American Education

www.education.ne.gov/mce

Welcome Back to *The Drum*

Editorial by Carol Rempp

“Look at each kid individually and find that thing that sparks them...If you can find that spark keep it lit!” Clay Anderson, Nebraska Middle Level Academy, June 8, 2011

The Summer of 2011 was an exciting and busy time for the NDE Multicultural Office. Some of the highlights include the Nebraska Middle Level Academy, the Dancers of the Plains, and writing the curriculum guide to accompany the *Native Daughters* magazine.

Students need role models and heroes. Students need people who believe in them—even Middle School kids! This seemed to be the theme of the 2011 Nebraska Middle Level Academy held in Ashland. Beginning with Dr. Roger Breed, Nebraska Commissioner of Education's motivational presentation about the value of teachers building relationships with students through to Ashland native Astronaut Clay Anderson's presentation on the important role teachers play in helping students find their passion and achieve their dreams.

The 2011 Dancers of the Plains Cultural Exhibition and

Education Day at the Great Platte River Road Archway in Kearney brought out hundreds of kids and families to learn

Journalism and Mass Communications July was highlighted with working on the curriculum guide to accompany the *Native Daughters* magazine.

about Native American culture. The honor tribe this year was the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Oklahoma. They brought over 150 dancers to demonstrate powwow dancing for the thousands who attended Friday and Saturday afternoon. On Friday morning students enjoyed many educational demonstration including learning about and touring authentic Lakota tipis, discussing archeological Native American artifacts, and learning how to make fry bread. The students were also treated to a special presentation in the earth lodge from Matt “Sitting Bear” Jones. Mr. Jones is a Nebraska Humanities Council speaker and a member of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe.

Using a grant from the Nebraska Humanities Council and in conjunction with the UNL College of



NASA Astronaut Clay Anderson from Nebraska
presenting at the Middle Level Academy

Fourteen outstanding teachers came to Lincoln for an intense week of researching and writing to create lessons that connect to the magazine and expand on ideas presented in the magazine. The writers looked at the issue from a classroom teacher standpoint. All of the lessons connect to various areas of the Nebraska State Standards and yet they also allow teachers to let the students creativity come through. The guide is going through the editing and publishing process right

[Continue page 3](#)





I am not afraid of storms, for I'm learning to sail my ship.

—Aeschyles

Free publications and interesting articles

U.S. Department has produced free publications for school administrators, teachers and parents.

The challenges facing administrators, teachers and parents regarding safety concerns and issues have become increasingly important in our complex world. In order to assist the academic community, the Department of Education has over the past several years produced a variety of free publications on the topic of Safety which we hope will be of interest to you. These publications are currently available to order from the ED Pubs website. <http://www.edpubs.gov/>

After-School Programs: Give Us Wings, Let Us Fly!
Communities And Schools Working Together

- ✓ Early Warning, Timely Response: A Guide To Safe Schools
- ✓ Preventing Bullying: A Manual For Schools And Communities
- ✓ Tips For Helping Students Recovering From Traumatic Events
- ✓ Stories '94: A Guide To Safe, Disciplined, And Drug-Free Schools
- ✓ Eager To Learn: Educating Our Preschoolers: Executive Summary
- ✓ Web Page Card: The 3 R's Of Early Childhood Education
- ✓ A Child Becomes A Reader: Kindergarten Through Grade 3
- ✓ Shining Stars: Toddlers Get Ready To Read: How Parents Can Help Their Toddlers

The Education Crisis No One Is Talking About

Story by Andrew J. Rotherman, Time U.S.

These two tectonic issues-our rocketing Hispanic population and the inadequate education of Hispanic students-are on a collision course that could either end in disaster or in another story of successful assimilation in America. The states are clear; how we meet this challenge will impact our politics, economy and our society. [Read more](#)



Student's Success Defies All Odds

Story by Soledad O'Brien, CNN

Maria, a junior is not complaining. She's the one who lobbied for the class once she figured out during her sophomore year that she wasn't on track to take calculus before graduation. [Read more](#)

Harvard admits record numbers of African American and Latino Students

Story by Jeevan Vasaguar, April 2011

While one school draws criticism for racial profiling intake, Harvard is applauded celebrates record proportions of two minority groups. About 11.8% of their new students for fall 2012 will be African American and 12.1% Latino. [Read more](#)

Addressing Bullying and Harassment



Publication addresses the problems associated with school bullying and provides culturally responsive ways to reshape schools so that all students feel a sense of safety, belong and empowerment.

Free download by clicking [here](#)
Or visit Equity Alliance at www.equityallianceatasu.org/

Editorial continue from page 1

now. It will be up on our website by the end of September. Also, at your various teacher association conferences throughout the coming year watch for presentations about the guide from me and/or the guide writers. I am truly very excited about the possibilities of how teachers can use this magazine and curriculum guide in their classrooms.

As always I am looking forward to working with many of you over the 2011-2012 school year. You can keep up to date with all of the activities of the Multicultural/Diversity Office via our website and through our newsletter or by requesting to be added to our listserv so that you will also receive eblast updates.



NASA Astronaut Clay Anderson from Nebraska with teachers Amber Dorsey and Darren Hanson



*Native Daughters Curriculum Writers
July 2011 at the University of Nebraska*

Museum of Nebraska Art Announces

Celebration of the Century October 25 from 1-5 p.m.

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the MONA building and the 35th anniversary of the Museum of Nebraska Art, MONA invites the public to a "Celebration of the Century – Museum of Nebraska Art 1911-2011." The beautiful Renaissance Revival style building has been serving Nebraskans for 100 years, first opening as the Kearney Post Office in 1911, starting its new life as the Museum of Nebraska



Art in 1986, and re-opening in 1993 as the completely renovated Museum.

Completed in 1911, the Kearney Post Office was designed by the office of

supervising architect in Washington, D.C., James Knox Taylor. The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in September 1981.

This year, we celebrate the past 100 years of the MONA building and 35 years of the Museum of Nebraska Art. An afternoon of exhibitions, music, activities focuses on 1911 and the people who have shared in the history of the building over the years, including those who transformed the former Kearney Post Office into MONA. This event is free and open to the public.

Why is it Art?

Now through April 29, 2012

Historical journey to learn how styles in art evolved, what influences the artist, and how to look at art. There are no definite answers as to "Why Is It Art," the gallery will help visitors understand and formulate their own definition of art.



It is a thousand times better to have common sense without education than to have education without common sense. —Robert Green Ingersoll

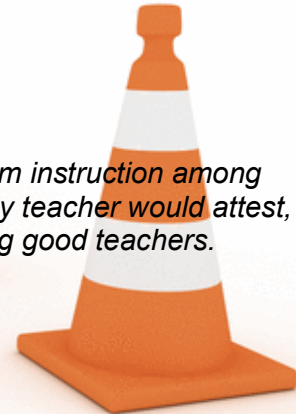
Your school building is about the people in it and the people impacted by it.

Brief excerpt listing from CNN Online

"Research shows that in education, leadership is second only to classroom instruction among the school-related factors that influence student achievement. And, as any teacher would attest, the skills and knowledge of a principal are vital in developing and retaining good teachers. Effective leadership and high-quality teaching go hand in hand."

—Gerald Zahorachak

From "States Must Take Lead in Improving School Leadership, July 2008" EducationWeek



Honesty and Integrity . Always do the honest thing. It makes employees feel like they know where they stand with you at all times.

Focus and Clarity. Know where you're going and have a strong stated mission to lead people on. You have to have strong focus and stay the course. New leaders fail when they try to become all things to all people, or try to do too much out of their area of excellence. Clarity helps you say "yes" to the right things -- and "no" to others. Be part of the solution.

Passion and Confidence. Whatever it is, you must have passion for what you're doing. Live, breathe, eat and sleep your mission. Have the confidence to say, "I don't know" which is a powerful skill.

Respect. Not playing favorites with people and treating all people -- no matter what station in life, what class or what rank in the org chart -- the same.

Excellent persuasion abilities. People have to believe in you

and your credibility. Image is everything and the belief people have in you, your product, your mission, your facts or your reputation are key to being a great leader. You have to persuade people of this -- it doesn't just happen.

Compassion. Too many leaders these days manage with the balance sheet, often times at the expense of their employees and long-term customer relationships. Talented people want to work for leaders and organizations that truly care about their employees and the communities in which they operate.

Engagement. Great business leaders are able to get all members of their teams engaged. They do this by offering them challenge, seeking their ideas and contributions and providing them with recognition for their contributions.

Celebration. In today's work environment, people are working very long hours and they need to take some time to celebrate their suc-

cesses in order to recharge their batteries. Those leaders who fail to do this create burnout environment over-time.

Humility. True leaders have confidence but realize the point at which it becomes hubris.

Empowering. True leaders make their associates feel emboldened and powerful, not diminished and powerless.

Collaborative. True leaders solicit input and feedback from those around them so that everyone feels part of the process.

Fearlessness. True leaders are not afraid to take risks or make mistakes. True leaders make mistakes born from risk.

Supportive. You need to foster a positive environment that allows your team to flourish. Also by aligning the reward and recognition systems that best match your teams profile and deliver results.

Health Watch for Students and Administrators

LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, assists with heating and cooling of homes. **A study between LIHEA and SNAP or WIC**, concluded that inadequate nutrition alone can make for developmental delays which we are all aware of. Add in the factor of being vulnerable to heat and cold in extreme cases, you have increased hospitalizations and other health risks for our students.

The University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development found the changes for development delays are three times high in homes without proper nutrition or heating/cooling.

Costs for food, utilities and housing in this economic times can result in families cutting needed items in their budget. This can include medications and medical visits.

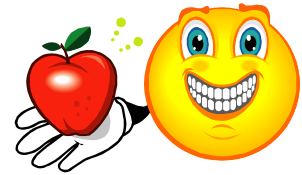
If you know of someone in your school that needs possible assistance before the cruel north wind begins to whip, start the process now.

Healthy children make for a better learning environment



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/>

Healthy K.I.D.S. Ready, Set, Go!



Designed to bring nutrition and fitness message to elementary school parents and teachers. Curriculum guides and activities enhance the newsletters. Available in English and Spanish.
www.childrenshealthfund.org/publications/health-education-groups/healthy-kids



Sight for Students provides free vision exams and glasses to low-income, uninsured children. The program operates nationally through a network of community partners who identify children in need and VSP network doctors who provide the eye care services.

More than 50,000 children each year receive a free comprehensive exam and corrective lenses if needed. These are children who would otherwise not receive the eye care and eyewear they need to do their best work in school and perform their best at play.

VSP founded Sight for Students in 1997 and was one of the original commitment-makers to America's Promise, which strives to bring together organizations dedicated to helping our nation's youth.

<http://www.sightforstudents.org/>



It's the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.
—Aristotle



Monthly Webinars

Target Audience: Bureau of Indian Education schools, Schools in areas with high Native populations, state education agencies, school officials, nutrition directors, teachers, Monthly Webinars Native American schools or schools with high native American student counts, state agencies, teachers, nutrition directors and school officials.

Explore the innovative ways in which Native American schools have been implementing healthy meals, nutrition education, and physical activity into their school day. Special focus will be given to HealthierUS School Challenge (HUSSC) and Fuel Up to Play 60 (FUTP60), two programs that can empower Native schools to become healthier.

Participants will learn about both programs' funding opportunities, resources, and successes in helping Native schools improve student nutrition and physical activity. The webinar will also feature guest speakers from Native schools in South Dakota and Arizona. The goal of the webinar is to inspire more Native American schools to start health initiatives and activities with help from HUSSC and FUTP60.

At the end of the webinar, there will be time for participants to ask questions, give comments, and share ideas.

Guest speakers:

Denise Juneau, Superintendent of Montana Schools
Ellen Robertson, Enemy Swim Day School (South Dakota)
Valencia McCabe, Tuba City Boarding School (Arizona)
Mike Renbarger, St. Joseph Indian School (South Dakota)

Webinar Series Registration – you can register for one or all 4 webinars at the following link:

<http://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/17fb9g4be58>

Reserve Your Spot! Upcoming Webcast



2:30 –3:30 p.m. Central time

August 11	The Path to Healthier Native American Schools - Spotlight on HealthierUS School Challenge and Fuel Up to Play 60
September 8,	Child and Adult Care Food Program - At-Risk Meals
October 13,	Feeding America: Weekend Backpack Program
November 10,	Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program
December 8,	Summer Food Service Program

Let's Move in Indian Country webinars are designed to help Bureau of Indian Education schools and high Native population public schools become more familiar with nutrition assistance programs available through USDA.

Culturally Responsive Coaching for Inclusive Schools Certification

March 1-2, 2012. Helps district and school leaders master an approach to coaching that transforms the beliefs and practices that constrain educational equity. Examine equity traps and help others reframe deficit models of thinking.

Transforming Leadership for Equity Certification

September 29-30, 2011. Improve the outcomes of all students by addressing institutional bias and promoting educational equity through systemic change process.



YOUR ROAD
TO LEADERSHIP
FOR EQUITY
BEGINS HERE



INTRODUCING
EQUITY ALLIANCE
CERTIFICATION COURSES!

<http://www.equityallianceatasu.org/certification/overview>



Native American Advisory Councils

**September 28, 2011
April 18, 2012**

DSL System meetings
Sites: Chadron, Scottsbluff, Lincoln,
and ESU 1 (Wakefield)
See guidelines at our website
www.education.ne.gov/mce

Youth Risk Behaviors: Addressing Challenges & Barriers to Achieve Success

Sponsor: Nebraska Department of Education, CDEC Division of Adolescent & School Health, ASAAOP (Area Substances & Alcohol Abuse Prevention)
Date: September 19, 2011
Location: Hastings Quality Inn Convention Center, Hastings NE
Registration: Free, contact chris.junker@nebraska.gov or 402-462-4187 x 166
Topics: Dating violence, teen suicide, cyber bullying

Federal Technical Assistance Workshop Day

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Indian Education www.edtaworkshops.org
Date: October 26, 2011
Location: Albuquerque, NM
Registration: Free, no deadline

2012 National At-Risk Education Network

Sponsor: National At Risk Education Network
<http://www.atriskeducation.net/events/conferences/naren/2012/index.html>
Date: Monday, Feb 21, 2012 pre conference; Feb 22-23, 2012 conference
Location: Panama City, FL
Registration: August through February 21
Theme 1: What works in the Classroom?" Theme 2: Addition in Youth

8th Annual Hispanic/Latino Education Summit!

Nebraska Department of Education

Registration is limited to 600, register NOW

at <http://latinosummit.org/>

Monday, September 26, 2011

Embassy Suites - LaVista, NE



We are pleased to announce the 2011 Summit sponsored by the Nebraska Department of Education in partnership with the Latino American Commission. This year's Summit will be held on **September 26, 2011** in Omaha, Nebraska at the Embassy Suites Conference Center, just off I-80 at exit 442. The 2011 Summit purpose is to provide information for students and staff on the importance of graduating and how to graduate career or college ready.

Those invited to participate are school staff and their students. We are encouraging youth attendance by providing informational sessions on opportunities for post-secondary experiences. This website will provide more information as it becomes available. We hope you will view the website and consider attending.



Why should society feel responsible only for the education of children, and not the education of all adults of every age?
—Erich Fromm

9 Systemic Processes To Raise Student Achievement



Nebraska Native American Education Symposium October 31, 2011 > 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m. > Wayne State College

Hosted by the Nebraska Department of Education and ESU 1.

Keynote Speakers from aha! Processes

Full day sessions. You must select K-6 or 7-12 session when registering.

This is a hands-on workshop where you will be able to walk into your classroom the following day with new, effective tools to use. Learn the nine teacher-friendly processes that are designed to raise student achievement. Simpler processes are key to this collegial model that is designed to take less time and yield strong results. Using the book, *Researched Based Strategies* and the workbook *9 Systemic Processes to Raise Achievement*, our presenters will walk clients through a model that creates sustainable excellence. Especially excellent for low performing schools, schools with demographic shifts, schools with students from poverty, and schools struggling to meet AYP with specific subgroups.



Kim D. Ellis
Presenter for K-6



Beverly Ray
Presenter for 7-12

Limited Registration: Deadline October 1, 2011

Registration is strictly limited to 200 participants per presenter. No exceptions. Registration will be a first come basis. Confirmations will be sent by October 10. Nebraska Department of Education will offer a waiting list for registrations.

COST: \$25 material fee per person (ESU 1 will invoice your school district or business.) Include all staff on one purchase order.

Recommended Audience

- K-12 classroom teacher
- Administrators
- NDE staff,
- ESU staff
- Guidance counselors
- School personnel directly involved in instruction of students.

How to register*



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ESU #1

Group and individual registration forms are available online at www.education.ne.gov/mce Print and complete forms. To submit, use one of the following methods.

1. Fax registration form and purchase order to Peg Kirby at 402-471-8127
2. Scan in registration form and purchase order and email to peg.kirby@nebraska.gov
3. Mail registration form and purchase order

Peg Kirby
Nebraska Dept of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln NE 68509

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES	Award	Eligibility	Deadline
<p><u>Libri Foundation: Books for Children</u> The Libri Foundation Books for Children Grants donate new, quality, hardcover children's books for small, rural, public libraries across the country. http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html</p>	varies	Libraries in a rural area, limited operating budget, and an active children's department. The average total operating budget of a Books for Children grant recipient must be less than \$40,000	1/23/2012
<p><u>State Farm Foundation: Grants</u> Safe Neighbors (safety), Strong Neighborhoods (community development), and Education Excellence (education). http://www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/cogrants.asp</p>	varies	Nonprofit, tax-exempt organizations under Section 501 (c)3	10/31/2011
<p><u>NCTM: PreK-6 Classroom Research Grants</u> National Council of Teachers of Mathematics PreK-6 Classroom Research Grants support and encourage classroom-based research in precollege mathematics education in collaboration with college or university mathematics educators. The research must be a significant collaborative effort involving a college or university mathematics educator (a mathematics education researcher or a teacher of mathematics learning, teaching, or curriculum) and one or more grades PreK-6 classroom teachers. The proposal may include, but is not restricted to, research on curriculum development and implementation, involvement of at-risk or minority students, students' thinking about a particular mathematics concept or set of concepts, connection of mathematics to other disciplines, focused learning and teaching of mathematics with embedded use of technology (any acquisition of equipment must support the proposed plan but not be the primary focus of the grant), and innovative assessment or evaluation strategies. http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=1330</p>	\$6,000	Classroom teachers currently teaching mathematics at the grades PreK-6 level who are current (as of October 14, 2011) NCTM members or who teach in a school that (as of October 14, 2011) has a NCTM PreK-8 school membership.	11/11/2011
<p><u>NCTM: Engaging Students in Learning Mathematics Grants for Grades 6-8 Teachers</u> The National Council of the Teachers of Mathematics Engaging Students in Learning Grants are given to incorporate middle school classroom materials or lessons that actively engage students in tasks and experiences to deepen and connect their content knowledge. Materials may be in the form of books, visual displays, slide shows, videotapes, or other appropriate media. The focus of these materials should be on showing the connectivity of mathematics to other fields or to the world around us. Materials may not be calculators, computers, or related equipment. Proposals must address one or more of the Content Standards: number and operations, geometry, measurement, algebra; plan for developing and evaluating materials; and the anticipated impact on students' learning. http://www.nctm.org/resources/content.aspx?id=1320</p>	\$3,000	Eligibility: current (as of October 14, 2011) Full Individual or E-Members of NCTM or those teaching at a school with a current (as of October 14, 2011) NCTM PreK-8 school membership who teach mathematics in grades 6-8 at least 50 percent of the school day	11/11/2011
<p><u>NSTA/Vernier Software & Technology: Vernier Technology Awards</u> National Science Teachers Association Vernier Technology Awards recognize the innovative use of data collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or handheld in the science classroom. *Maximum award: \$1,000 toward expenses to attend the NSTA National Conference, \$1,000 in cash for the teacher, and \$1,000 in Vernier products. http://www.nsta.org/about/awards.aspx?lid=tnavhp#vernier</p>	\$1,000*	Teachers of science grades K-College	11/30/2011





Fill your life with color. Blend the color.
Add bold accents, discover new shades.



Every Kid Deserves Music Education

www.littlerocksrocks.org

DID YOU KNOW. . .

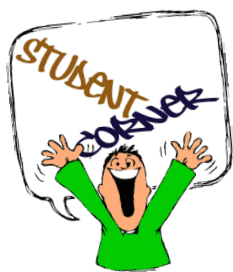
- ✓ 74,000 kids enjoy Little Kids Rock
- ✓ Kids who play musical instruments are 525 more likely to attend college
- ✓ Offered FREE in U.S. public school systems.
- ✓ Builds self esteem

Little Kids Rock gives free musical instruments, training, and resources to any public school teacher who wants to run a rockin' music program in their school.

One of the coolest things about Little Kids Rock is that schools can get the program up and running quickly and at no cost. Any full-time public school teacher is eligible to sign up.

Applicants don't need to have advanced abilities on all instruments, but only need a basic level of proficiency on the instrument of the particular workshop to which they are applying. The best part is that since all instruments are donated free of cost, all kids have the chance to learn, play and rock out!

Program is endorsed and funded with assistance from famous musicians and the Dr. Phil Foundation.



Scholarship Possibilities

- ✓ AT & T Labs Research Internship and Fellowships opens September 12 2011 [read more](#)
- ✓ Gates Millennium January 2012 deadline <http://www.gmsp.org>
- ✓ AAAS Minority Science Writers Internships <http://www.aaas.org/careercenter/internships/scienceminority.shtml>
- ✓ George T. Snyder, Jr. Scholarship Program via ABA Foundation (transportation or tourism) <http://www.buses.org/ABA-Foundation/Scholarships>
- ✓ American Chemical Society Scholars Program <http://www.aie.org/scholarships>
- ✓ Actuarial Diversity Scholarship for students in actuarial science <http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/actuarial/scholarships.shtml>

The U.S. Census projects 1 in 5 Americans will be Latino by 2020. However, nearly 1 in 5 Latinos currently drop out of high school and only 1 in 8 have a college degree, the lowest rate of any racial/ethnic group. (Hispanic College Fund)

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